

WEBSTER'S NEW WORLDTM COLLEGE DICTIONARY

Fourth Edition

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degree, as of despair *b*) a low state or condition [shocked that their principles had fallen to such *depths*] *7* reserve strength, as of suitable substitute players for a team —*in depth* in a thorough and comprehensive way [analysis in *depth*] *out of (or beyond) one's depth* *1* in water, too deep for one *2* past one's ability or understanding

depth charge (or **bomb**) a powerful explosive charge that is dropped from a ship or airplane and explodes under water: used esp. against submarines

depth of field *Optics*: a zone in which objects are in sharp focus (the larger the aperture, the shallower the *depth of field*)

depth perception ability to see objects in perspective

depth psychology any system of psychology, as psychoanalysis, dealing with the processes of the unconscious

depu-rate (dep'yō rāt') *vt.* —*rat'ed*, —*rat'ing* [*< ML depuratus*; pp. of *depurare*, to purify *< L de-*, intens. + *purare*, to purify *< purus*, PURE] to purify

depu-tation (dep'yō tā'shən, -yə-) *n.* [*ME deputacioun* *< LL deputatio*] *1* a deputing or being deputed *2* a group of persons, or one person, appointed to represent others

de-pu-te (dē pü'tē), *di-* *vt.* —*put'ed*, —*put'ing* [*ME deputen* *< OFr deputé* *< L deputare*, to cut off, detach, hence depute *< de-*, from + *putare*, lit., to cleanse, lop off: see PURE] *1* to give (authority, functions, etc.) to someone else as deputy *2* to appoint as one's substitute, agent, etc.

depu-tize (dep'yō tīz', -yə-) *vt.* —*tized*, —*tiz'ing* to appoint as deputy *—vi.* to act as deputy —*de-pu-ti'za-tion* *n.*

depu-ty (dep'yō tē, -yə- tē) *n.*, *pl.* —*ties* [*ME deputé* *< Anglo-Fr deputé*, pp. of *OFr deputer*: see DEPUTE] *1* a person appointed to act as a substitute for, or as an assistant to, another *2* a member of any of certain national legislatures or their lower houses, as in France, Italy, or Albania —*adj.* acting as deputy —*SYN. AGENT*

De Quincey (dē kwēn'sē), Thomas 1785-1859; Eng. essayist & critic

de-raci-nate (dē ras'ē nāt', di-) *vt.* —*nat'ed*, —*nat'ing* [*Fr déraciner* *< dé-* (L *dis-*), from + *racine*, a root *< LL radicina* *< L radix* (gen. *radicis*), ROOT] *1* to pull up by or as by the roots; uproot; eradicate *2* to separate from one's roots or ties, esp. ethnic or national ones —*de-raci-na'tion* *n.* —*de-raci-na'ted* *adj.*

de-rail (dē rāl') *vt.* [*Fr dérailler* *< dé-*, from (see DE-) + *rail* *< OFr reille*: see RAIL] *1* to cause (a train, etc.) to go off the rails —*vi.* to go off the rails —*de-rail'men* *n.*

de-rail-leur (dē rāl'ēr) *n.* [*Fr dérailleur*, derailer, with reference to the "derailing" of the chain from the sprocket] a gear-shifting mechanism on a bicycle for controlling its speed by shifting the sprocket chain from one to another of a set of different-sized sprocket wheels

De-rain (dē ran'), An-dré (ān drā') 1880-1954; Fr. painter

de-rangé (dē rān', di-) *vt.* —*ranged*, —*rang'ing* [*Fr déranger* *< OFr desranger* *< des-* (L *dis-*), apart + *rangier*: see RANGE] *1* to upset the arrangement, order, or operation of; unsettle; disorder *2* to make insane —*de-ranged* *adj.* —*de-range'men* *n.*

de-rate (dē rāt') *vt.* —*rat'ed*, —*rat'ing* to reduce the electrical power rating of (a nuclear power plant, furnace, electrical component, etc.) to improve safety, reliability, or efficiency

Derby (där'bē, chiefly Brit., där'bē) *n.*, *pl.* —*bles* *1* a race for three-year-old horses, run annually at Epsom Downs in Surrey *2* any similar horse race; esp., the Kentucky Derby **3* [d] any of various contests or races, open to anyone who wishes to enter (a fishing derby, demolition derby) **4* [d] a stiff felt hat with a round crown and curved brim; bowler

Derby (där'bē, chiefly Brit., där'bē) *1* city in Derbyshire, central England; county district pop. 219,000 *2* DÉRBYSHIRE

Der-by-shire (där'bē shir, -shēr, chiefly Brit., där'bē-) county in central England; 1,015 sq mi (2,629 sq km); pop. 929,000

de-real-iza-tion (dē ré'ēl ī zā'shən) *n.* a loss or lessening of one's sense of the reality of things, as in the reaction to certain drugs

de-regu-late (dē reg'yē lāt') *vt.* —*lat'ed*, —*lat'ing* to remove regulations governing (to deregulate the price of natural gas) —*de-regu-la'tion* *n.*

Derek (dērik) *n.* a masculine name: var. *Derrick*; equiv. Du. *Dirk*

derelict (dēr'ēlikt') *adj.* [*LL derelictus*, pp. of *derelinquere*, to forsake utterly, abandon *< de-*, intens. + *relinquere*: see RELINQUISH] *1* deserted by the owner; abandoned; forsaken **2* neglectful of duty; remiss, negligent —*n.* *1* a property abandoned by the owner; esp., an abandoned ship on the open sea *2* a destitute person, without a home or regular job and rejected by society *3* land exposed by the receding of water —*SYN. REMISS*

dereliction (dēr'ē lik'shən) *n.* [*LL derelictio*: see prec.] *1* [Now Rare] an abandoning or forsaking *2* [Now Rare] the state of being abandoned or forsaken *3* a neglect of, or failure in, duty; a being remiss *4* *Law* the gaining of land from water by the gradual retreat of the sea below the usual watermark

deride (dērid') *vt.* —*rid'ed*, —*rid'ing* [*LL deridere* *< de-*, pejorative + *ridere*, to laugh; see RIDICULE] to laugh at in contempt or scorn; make fun of; ridicule —*SYN. RIDICULE* —*de-rid'er n.* —*de-rid'ing* *adj.*

deri-guer (dār'i gūr', dā-) [*Fr*] *1* required by etiquette; according to good form; proper *2* required by fashion; fashionable

deri-sion (dīrīzh'ən) *n.* [*ME < LL derisio* *< derisus*, pp. of *deridere*] *1* a deriding or being derided; contempt or ridicule *2* [Rare] a person or thing derided

deriv. abbrev. *1* derivation *2* derived

deri-va-tion (dēr'ē vā'shən) *n.* [*ME derivacioun* *< L derivatio* *< pp. of derivare*: see DERIVE] *1* a deriving or being derived *2* descent or origination *3* something derived; a derivative *4* the source or origin of something *5* the origin and development of a word; etymology *6* *a* *Gram.* the process of forming words from bases by the addition of affixes other than inflectional morphemes, or by internal phonetic change (the *derivation* of "warmth" from "warm") *b* *Linguis.* in generative grammar, the process of forming sentences —*deri-va-tional adj.*

de-riva-tive (dē rīv'ē tiv) *adj.* [*ME derivatiif* *< LL derivativus* *< L derivatus*, pp. of *derivare*: see fol.] *1* derived *2* using or taken from other sources; not original *3* of derivation —*n.* *1* something derived *2* *Chem.* a substance derived from, or of such composition and properties that it may be considered as derived from, another substance by chemical change, esp. by the substitution of one or more elements or radicals *3* *Finance* a contract, as an option or futures contract, whose value depends on the value of the securities, commodities, etc. that form the basis of the contract *4* *Linguis.* a word formed from another or others by derivation *5* *Math.* the limiting value of a rate of change of a function with respect to a variable; the instantaneous rate of change, or slope, of a function (Ex.: the derivative of *y* with respect to *x*, often written dy/dx , is 3 when $y = 3x$) —*de-riv'a-tively* *adv.*

de-ri-ve (dē rīv') *vt.* —*ri-ved*, —*ri-v'ing* [*ME derivein* *< OFr derivier* *< L derivare*, to divert, orig., to turn a stream from its channel *< de-*, from + *rius*, a stream; see RIVAL] *1* to get or receive (something) from a source *2* to get by reasoning, deduce or infer *3* to trace from or to a source; show the derivation of *4* *Chem.* to obtain or produce (a compound) from another compound by replacing one element with one or more other elements —*vi.* to come (*from*); be derived; originate —*SYN. RISE* —*de-ri'vable adj.* —*de-ri'ver n.*

derm- (dērm) *combining form* DERMATO-: used before a vowel

derm (dērm) [*see fol.*] *combining form* skin or covering [blastoderm, endoderm]

derma¹ (dēr'mē) *n.* [*ModL < Gr derma*, skin *< IE base *der-*, to skin, flay *> TEAR*] DERMIS

derma² (dēr'mē) *n.* [*Yiddish derme*, pl. of *darm*, gut *< MHG < OHG darm* *< IE *tormo-s*, hole *< base *ter-*, to rub, bore *> THROW*, Gr *tormos*, hole] KISHKE

derma-bra-sion (dēr'mē brā'zhən) *n.* [*DERM(IS) + ABRASION*] the surgical procedure of scraping off upper layers of the epidermis with an abrasive device, as in seeking to repair acne scars, blemishes, etc.

der-mal (dēr'mel) *adj.* of the skin or the dermis

der-map-ter-ən (dēr map'tər ən) *n.* [*< ModL Dermaptera* (see DERMA¹ & PTERO-¹ + -AN)] EARWIG

der-ma-ti-tis (dēr'mē tīt'is) *n.* [*fol. + -ITIS*] inflammation of the skin: see DERMATOSIS

dermat- (dēr'mē tō; dēr mat'ō, -ə) [*Gr dermatō-* *< derma* (gen. *dermatos*), skin; see DERMA¹] *combining form* skin or hide [dermatology]: also, before a vowel, *dermat-*

der-ma-to-gen (dēr'mē tō jan, dēr mat'ē) *n.* [*DERMATO-* + -GEN] *Bot.* a layer of dividing cells from which the epidermis is formed

der-ma-to-gly-ph-ics (dēr'mē tō glif'iks) *pl.n.* the patterns of skin ridges on the lower surface of the hand or foot —*n.* the study of these, as in medical diagnosis —*der-ma-to-glyph'ic adj.*

der-ma-to-logy (dēr'mē tāl'ē jē) *n.* [*DERMATO-* + -LOGY] the branch of medicine dealing with the skin and its diseases —*der-ma-to-log'ic* (tē läj'ik) *adj.* or *der-ma-to-log'i-cal* (läj'i kəl) —*der-ma-to-log'i-st* *n.*

der-ma-to-ma (dēr'mē tōmē) *n.* [*DERMA¹ + -TOME*] any of the segmentally arranged mesodermal masses in a vertebrate embryo, destined to form dermis

der-ma-to-ph-yte (dēr'mē tō fit', dēr mat'ē) *n.* any plant parasitic on the skin, as the fungus that causes ringworm

der-ma-to-plas-ty (plas'tē) *n.* [*DERMATO-* + -PLASTY] plastic surgery of the skin, as by skin grafts

der-ma-to-sis (dēr'mē tōsēs) *n.* *pl.* —*to'ses' (-sēz')* [*DERMAT(O)- + -OSIS*] any disorder of the skin: see DERMATITIS

der-mes-tid (dēr mes'tid) *n.* [*< ModL Dermestidae* *< Gr dermēstēs*, a leather-eating worm *< derma*, skin (see DERMA¹) + *esthein*, to eat *< esthi*, imper. of *edmenai*, EAT] any of a family (Dermestidae) of small, drab-colored beetles whose larvae and adults are destructive to hides, furs, woolens, cereals, etc.

der-mic (dēr'mik) *adj.* DERMAL

der-mis (dēr'mis) *n.* [*ModL*, back-form. *< LL epidermis*, EPIDERMIS] the layer of skin just below the epidermis: see SKIN, illus.

dermo- (dēr'mō, -mē) [*< Gr derma*; see DERMA¹] *combining form* DERMATO-

der-moid (dēr'moid') *adj.* [*prec. + -OID*] *1* consisting of tissues of ectodermal origin, such as skin, hair, and teeth, as found in certain benign, congenital tumors *2* skinlike

der-mop-ter-ən (dēr'māp'tərēn) *n.* [*< ModL Dermoptera* *< dermo-*, DERM- + -ptera (see PTERO-¹ + -AN)] FLYING LEMUR

der-nier cri (dēr'nyā krē) [*Fr*, lit., the latest cry] the latest fashion; last word

der-o-gate (dēr'ē gāt') *vt.* —*gat'ed*, —*gat'ing* [*ME derogatēn* *< L derogatus*, pp. of *derogare*, to repeat part of (a law), detract from *< de-*, from + *rogare*, to ask; see ROGATION] *1* [Archaic] to take (a part or quality) away from something so as to impair it *2* [Rare] to

reaction, etc.) —*SYN. EXTRACT*

evo-lute (ev'ə lüt') *n.* [*< L evolutus: see fol.*] *Geom.* a curve that is the locus of the center of curvature of another curve (called the *involute*); the envelope of the perpendiculars, or normals, of the *involute*; see *INVOLUTE*, illus.

evo-lu-tion (ev'ə lü'shən; occas. ə'ves-) *n.* [*L evolutio*, an unrolling or opening < *evolutus*, pp. of *evolvere*: see *EVOLVE*] 1 an unfolding, opening out, or working out; process of development, as from a simple to a complex form, or of gradual, progressive change, as in a social and economic structure 2 a result or product of this; thing evolved 3 a) a movement that is part of a series or pattern b) a pattern produced, or seemingly produced, by such a series of movements (the *evolutions* of a fancy skater) 4 a setting free or giving off, as of gas in a chemical reaction 5 *Biol.* a) the development of a species, organism, or organ from its original or primitive state to its present or specialized state; phylogeny or ontogeny b) *DARWINIAN THEORY* (see *LAMARCKISM, MUTATION*) 6 *Math.* the extracting of a root of a given number: opposed to *INVOLUTION* 7 [*Fr évolution*] *Mil.* any of various movements or manuevers by which troops, ships, etc. change formation —*evo-lu'tional adj.* —*evo-lu'tion-ally adv.* —*evo-lu'tion-ary adj.*

evo-lu-tion-ist (-ist) *n.* 1 a person who accepts the principles of biological evolution 2 a person who believes in the possibility of political and social progress by gradual, peaceful steps —*adj.* 1 of the theory of evolution 2 of evolutionists —*evo-lu'tion-ism n.* —*evo-lu'tion-is'tic adj.* —*evo-lu'tion-is'tically adv.*

evolve (ə völ', -völ'; i-) *vt.* *evolved* —*evolv-ing* [*L evolvere*, to roll out < *e-*, out + *volvere*, to roll: see *WALK*] 1 to develop by gradual changes; unfold 2 to set free or give off (gas, heat, etc.) 3 to produce or change by evolution —*vi.* 1 to develop gradually by a process of growth and change; **2* to become disclosed; unfold —*evo-lu'ment n.*

evul-sion (ə vul'shən) *n.* [*ME evulsioun < evulsio < pp. of evellere, to pull out < e-, out + vellere, to pluck > IE base *wel-*, to tear, injure > *OE wæl, slaughter*] a pulling out by force, or uprooting.

Ev-vola (ev'ə ə) *var. of EUBOEA*

ev-zone (ev'zōn') *n.* [*< ModGr euzōnos < Gr, well-equipped, lit., well-girded < eu-, well (see EU-) + zōnē, a girdle: see ZONE*] a member of a special unit of riflemen in the Greek army whose uniform includes a wide skirt

ewe (yōō) *n.* [*ME ewe < OE eowu, fem. of eow, sheep, akin to Ger. aue, a ewe < IE base *owi-s, sheep, L ovis*] a female sheep

Ewe (ā'wā, ā've) *n., pl. E'wes' or E'we's* 1 a member of a people of Togo and parts of Ghana and Benin 2 the Kwa language of this people

Ew-ell (yōō'əl), Richard Stoddert (städ'ərt) 1817-72; Confederate general in the Civil War

ewe-neck (yōō'nek') *n.* a thin, badly arched neck sometimes occurring in horses and dogs —*ewe'-necked' adj.*

ewer (yōō'ər) *n.* [*ME < Anglo-Fr < OFr evier < ML aquarium, water pitcher < L: see AQUARIUM*] a large water pitcher with a wide mouth

ex¹ (eks) *prep.* [*LL*] 1 without; exclusive of /*ex dividend, ex interest*/ 2 out of; free of /*ex warehouse* means "free of charges until removed from the warehouse" —*3* of the (specified) college class, but not having graduated with it [Wm. Jones, Yale *ex '61*] —*n., pl.*

ex'es [Informal] one's divorced husband or wife

ex² (eks) *n., pl.* *ex'es* the letter X

ex³ *abbrev.* 1 examined 2 example 3 exchange 4 executive 5 express 6 extra

Ex *abbrev. Bible Exodus*

ex¹ (for 1 eks, iks, īg, īgz; for 2 eks) [*ME < OFr or L, akin to Gr ex-, exō-, ek- < IE base *eghs-, outl! prefix 1 a) forth, from, out [extubate] b) beyond [exurb], c) away from, out of [explant], d) thoroughly e) upward f) without, not having [exsanguine]; it becomes ef- before f, e- before b, d, g, j, l, m, n, r, or v; often ec- before c, or s; and, in many words of French origin, es- 2 former, previous, previously; used in hyphenated compounds (ex-president, ex-convict, ex-wife)*

ex² (eks) *prefix EXO-* used before a vowel

ex-a- (ek'sə, īg'zə) *combining form* one quintillion; the factor 10¹⁸ [*exajoule*]

ex-ac-er-bate (eg'zas'ər bāt', īg-) *vt.* *-bated, -bat-ing* [*< L exacerbatus, pp. of exacerbare, to exasperate, make angry < ex-, intens. + acerbus, bitter: see ACERBITY*] 1 to make more intense or sharp; aggravate (disease, pain, annoyance, etc.) 2 to exasperate, annoy; irritate; embitter —*ex-ac'er-ba'tion n.*

ex-act (eg zakt', īg-) *adj.* [*L exactus < pp. of exigere, to drive out, measure, determine < ex-, out + agere, to do: see ACT¹*] 1 characterized by, requiring, or capable of accuracy of detail; very accurate; methodical; correct (an *exact* science) 2 not deviating in form or content; without variation; precise (an *exact* replica) 3 being the very (one specified or understood) /*the exact* spot where I put it/ 4 strict; severe; rigorous (an *exact* disciplinarian) —*vt.* [*ME exacten*] 1 to force payment of; extort: with *from* or of 2 to demand and get by authority or force; insist on: with *from* or of 3 to call for; make necessary; require —*SYN. DEMAND, EXPLICIT, CORRECT* —*ex-act-able adj.* —*ex-act-ness n.* —*ex-act'or n.* or *ex-act'er*

***ex-act-a** (eg zakt'ə, īg-) *n.* *PERFECTA*

ex-act-ing (eg'zak'tin, īg-) *adj.* 1 making severe or excessive demands; not easily satisfied; strict (an *exacting* teacher) 2

ex-ac-ti-tude (eg'zak'tē tūd', -tyoo'd; īg-, īn-) *n.* [*ME exactitudine < L exactitudine < exactus, pp. of exactus, exactus, to be exact, accurate, precise; also used as an affirmative reply, equivalent to agree, "quite true"*]

ex-ag-ger-ate (eg'zaj'ər āt', īg-) *vt.* *-at-ed, -at-ing* [*L exaggeratus, pp. of exaggerare, to increase, exaggerate, to exagerare, to heap up < agger, a heap < aggerere, to bring forward & ad-, to + gerere, to carry: see GESTURE*] 1 to think, speak, or write of as greater than is really so; magnify beyond the facts 2 to increase or enlarge to an extreme or abnormal degree; overemphasize; intensify —*vi.* to give an exaggerated description —*ex-ag'er-at-ed-ly adv.* —*ex-ag'ger-a'tive adj.* —*ex-ag'ger-a'tor n.*

ex-alt (ē zōl', īg-) *vt.* [*ME exalten < OFr exalter < LL exaltare < ex-, out, up + altus, high: see OLD*] to raise on high; elevate; lift up; specify, etc. 2 to raise in status, dignity, power, wealth, etc. b) to praise; glorify; extol c) to fill with joy, pride, etc. elate (used in the passive or in participial form) d) to heighten or intensify the action or effect of —*ex-alt-ed-ly adv.* —*exaltation n.*

ex-alt-a-tion (ē zōl tā'shən) *n.* [*ME exaltacion < L exaltatio*] 1 an exalting or being exalted 2 a feeling of great joy, pride, power, etc.; elation; rapture

exam (ē zam', īg-) *n.* *short for EXAMINATION*

ex-a-men (ē zam'ən, īg-) *n.* [*LL: see EXAMINE*] 1 an examination or detailed study 2 *Eccles.* a methodical scrutiny of one's conscience

ex-am-i-na-tion (ē zam'ə nā'shən, īg-) *n.* [*ME examination < OFr examination < L examinatio: see EXAMINE*] 1 an examining or being examined; investigation; inspection; checkup; scrutiny; inquiry; testing 2 means or method of examining 3 a series of questions asked in testing or interrogating; test

ex-am-i-na-to-ri-al (-nā tōr'ē əl) *adj.* of or having to do with an examiner or examination

ex-am-i-nate (ē zam'ən, īg-) *vt.* *-ined, -in-ing* [*ME examinare < OFr examiner < L examinare, to weigh, ponder, examine*] 1 examine; tongue of a balance, examination < ex-, out + base of deign to lead, move: see ACT¹] 1 to look at or into critically or methodically in order to find out the facts, condition, etc. of; investigate; inspect; scrutinize; inquire into 2 to test by carefully questioning in order to find out the knowledge, skill, qualifications, etc. of (a student, witness, job applicant, etc.) —*SYN. SCRUTINIZE* —*ex-am'i-nable adj.*

ex-am-i-nee (ē zam'ə nē, īg-) *n.* a person being or to be examined

ex-am-i-nier (ē zam'ə nēr, īg-) *n.* a person who examines, specifies, one whose work is examining records, people, etc. also *exam+nant* (-nant)

ex-am-ples (ē zam'pəl, īg-, -zām-) *n.* [*ME < OFr example, ensample < L exemplum, sample, example < exemplare, to take out < ex-, out + emere, to buy < IE base *em-, to take > Lith imiž*] 1 something selected to show the nature or character of the rest; single part or unit used as sample; typical instance 2 a case, punishment, etc. that serves as a warning or caution to fine a speeder as an example to others 3 a person or thing to be imitated; model; pattern; precedent, 4 a problem, as in mathematics, designed to illustrate a principle or method —*vt.* *-pled, -pling* to exemplify; obs. except in the passive —*SYN. INSTANCE, MODEL* —*for example* as an example; by way of illustration —*set an example* to behave so as to be a pattern or model for others to imitate

ex-an-i-mate (eks an'ə mit) *adj.* [*L exanimatus, pp. of exanimare, to deprive of air, kill < ex-, out of + anima, air, spirit [see ANIMAL + -ATE¹]*] 1 dead; inanimate 2 without animation; spiritless; inert

ex-an-them (eks an'them) *n.* [*< LL exanthema < Gr exanthema, efflorescence, eruption < exanthein, to bloom < ex-, out + anthein, to flower < anthos: see ANTHO-*] 1 a skin eruption or rash occurring in certain infectious diseases, as measles 2 an infectious disease characterized by such eruptions Also *ex-an-the-ma* (eks an'thē-mə)

n., pl. -mas or -ma-tas (-thē'məz) —*the'məz, -thē'məz*

ex-arch¹ (eks'är'kə) *n.* [*LL exarchus, overseer of monasteries < Gr exarchos, leader, chief (in LGr, prefect, bishop): see EX- & ARCE*]

1 a governor of an outlying province in the ancient Byzantine Empire 2 the supreme head of the independent Orthodox Church of Bulgaria 3 *Eastern Orthodox Ch.* a) [Historical] an archbishop or patriarch b) now, a bishop or other member of the clergy serving as a patriarch's deputy or legate —*ex-arch'al adj.*

ex-arch² (eks'är'kə) *adj.* [*< EX¹ + Gr archē, beginning*] Bot. having the primary xylem maturing from the outer part of a stem toward the center: cf. ENDARCH

ex-arch-ate (eks är'kit, -kāt', eks'är'-) *n.* [*ML exarchatus*] the position, rank, or province of an exarch

ex-as-per-ate¹ (eg'zas'par ət', īg-) *vt.* *-ated, -at-ing* [*L exasperatus, pp. of exasperare < ex-, out, from + asperare, to roughen, asper, rough: see ASPERITY*] 1 to irritate or annoy very much; make angry; vex 2 [Archaic] to intensify (a feeling, disease, etc.) to aggravate —*SYN. IRRITATE*

ex-as-per-ate² (eg'zas'par it, -ät') *adj.* [*< L exasperatus: see pred.*

1 [Archaic] exasperated 2 Bot. having rough and prickly skin

ex-as-per-a-tion (eg'zas'per ə shən, īg-) *n.* an exasperating or vexatious, great irritation or annoyance

exc *abbrev. except*

Ex-call-bur (eks kal'ē bər) *n.* [*ME < OFr Escalibor < ML Caliburnus < Celt Arthurian Legend King Arthur's sword* in or

on-slaught (ān'slōt') *n.* [altered (inf. by SLAUGHTER) < Du *annslag* < *slagen*, to strike; see SLAY] a violent, intense attack
on-stage (ān'stāj') *adj.*, *adv.* on a stage, before an audience
on-stream or **on-stream** (ān'strēm') *adv.* into operation or production [a new refinery coming onstream]

Ont Ontario

On-tar-īo (ān ter'ē īō) 1 [after Lake *Ontario*] province of SC Canada, between the Great Lakes & Hudson Bay: 412,580 sq mi (1,068,578 sq km); pop. 10,754,000; cap. Toronto; abbrev. *ON* or *Ont* 2 [after the Cdn province] city in S Calif.; pop. 133,000 3 Lake [*< Fr < Iroquoian, lit., fine lake*] smallest & easternmost of the Great Lakes, between N.Y. & Ontario, Canada: 7,540 sq mi (19,529 sq km) —**On-tar'-ian** *adj.*, *n.*

on-tic (ān'tik) *adj.* [ONTO(O) + -IC] having the status of real and ultimate existence —**on-ti-cally** *adv.*

onto (ān'tō) *prep.* 1 to and upon; to a position on *2 [Slang] aware of or familiar with, esp. aware of the real nature or meaning of [they're onto our schemes]

onto- (ān'tō, -tō) [*< Gr ὅν (gen. ὄντος)*, prp. of *einai*, to be < IE base *es- > IS¹] *combining form* 1 being, existence [*ontology*] 2 organization [*ontogeny*] Also, before a vowel, **ont-**

on-top-eny (ān tāj'ē nē) *n., pl.* —*nies* [prec. + -GENY] the life cycle of a single organism; biological development of the individual: distinguished from **PHYLLOGENY**; also called **on-to-gen-esis** (ān'tō jēn'ē sis) —**on-to-ge-net-ic** (ān'tō jē net'ik) *adj.* or **on-to-gen'ic** (-jen'ik)

ontological argument *Metaphysics* an *a priori* argument for the existence of God, asserting that the conception of a perfect being implies that being's existence outside the human mind

on-tol-ogy (ān tāl'ē jē) *n.* [ModL *ontologia*: see ONTO- & -LOGY] 1 the branch of metaphysics dealing with the nature of being, reality, or ultimate substance: cf. **PHENOMENOLOGY** 2 *pl.* —*gies* a particular theory about being or reality —**on-to-log-i-cal** (ān'tō läj'ī kal) *adj.* —**on-to-log-i-cally** *adv.* —**on-tol-o-gist** *n.*

onus (ōn'ōs) *n.* [L, a load, burden < IE base *enos- or *onos- > Sans *ānah*, freight cart] 1 a difficult or unpleasant task, duty, etc.; burden 2 responsibility for a wrong; blame 3 [clip of L *onus probandi*, burden of proving] **BURDEN OF PROOF**

on-ward (ān'wərd) *adv.* [ME: see ON & -WARD] toward or at a position or point ahead in space or time; forward: also **on'-wards** —*adj.* moving or directed onward or ahead; advancing [*an onward trend*]

onym (ē nim) *combining form* name or word [*acronym*]

onyx (ān'iks) *n.* [ME *onix* < OFr < L *onyx* < Gr, the NAIL: its color resembles that of the fingernail] 1 a variety of agate with alternate colored layers, used as a semiprecious stone, esp. in making cameos 2 a translucent, finely crystalline calcite, often banded, found in stalagmites; also called **onyx marble**

oo- (ōō, ōō) [*< Gr οῖον, EGG¹*] *combining form* egg or ovum [*oogenesis*]

oocyte (ōō'sit', ōō'-ē) *n.* [prec. + -CYTE] *Embryology* an egg that has not yet undergone maturation

OOD *abbrev.* 1 Officer of the Day 2 Officer of the Deck

oo-dies (ōōd'īz) *pl.n.* [*< ?*] [Informal] a great amount; very many

ooga-mous (ō āg'ā mōs) *adj.* [OO- + **GAMOUS**] characterized by the uniting of a large, nonmotile egg and a small, active sperm for reproduction —**oog'am-y** (-mē) *n.*

oogen-esis (ōō'jēn'ē sis, ōō'-ē) *n.* [OO- + **GENESIS**] *Biol.* the process by which the ovum is formed in preparation for its development —**ooge-net'ic** (-jē net'ik) *adj.*

oo-goo-nium (ōō'gōō'ē am) *n., pl.* —*nia* (-ē) or —*nium* (-ē) [ModL < OO- + **GENIUM**] 1 the female reproductive organ in certain algae and fungi, consisting of a large cell in which the eggs (*oospheres*) are developed 2 *Embryology* any of the cells from which the oocytes arise

oo-h (ōō) *interj.* used variously to express surprise, enthusiasm, delight, displeasure, etc. —*vi.* to utter this exclamation [they oohed and aahed over the baby]

oo-lite (ōō'līt, ōō'-ē) *n.* [Fr *oölith*: see OO- & -LITE] 1 a tiny, spherical or ellipsoid particle with concentric layers, usually of calcium carbonate, formed in wave-agitated sea waters 2 a rock composed chiefly of oolites Also **o'lith** (-lith) —**o'olit'ic** (-lit'ik) *adj.*

oo-logy (ōō'lōjē) *n.* [OO- + **LOGY**] that branch of zoology concerned with the study of eggs, esp. birds' eggs —**oo-ologi-cal** (ōō'lōjē'ē) *adj.* —**oo'lōg-ist** *n.*

oo-long (ōō'lōn) *n.* [Chin. dial. form of *wulung*, lit., black dragon] dark tea from China and Taiwan that is partly fermented before being dried

oom-lak or **oo-mi-lak** (ōō'mē āk') *n.* UMIAK

oom-pah or **oom-pah** (ōōm'pā') *n.* [echoic] the sound of a repeated, rhythmic bass figure played as by a tuba in a marching band; also **oom-pah-pah**'

oomph (ōōmf, ūmf) *n.* [echoic] of involuntary expression of approval] [Slang] 1 sex appeal 2 vigor; energy

oo-ho-rec-tomy (ōō fā rek'tē mē, ōō'-ē) *n., pl.* —*mies* [OOPH(OR)-**TOMY**] the surgical removal of one or both ovaries

oo-ho-ri-tis (ōōrīt'is) *n.* [ModL: see fol. + **ITIS**] inflammation of an *oo-ho-ri-tis* for the ovaries

1009

onslaught / open

may, or, sometimes, implied apology, after one has blundered, tripped, broken something, misspoken, etc.

Oort cloud (ōōrt) [after J. Oort (1900-92), Du astronomer] a moving mass of icy cosmic debris thought to exist in the vast region beyond Pluto and to be the source of the comets that orbit the sun

oosperm (ōō spōrm', ūs'-ē) *n.* [OO- + **SPERM**] *obs. var.* of **ZYGOTE**

oosphere (-sfir) *n.* [OO- + **SPHERE**] *Bot.* any of the large, spherical, nonmotile, unfertilized eggs that develop in an oogonium

oospore (-spōr) *n.* [OO- + **SPORE**] *Bot.* a thick-walled, resting spore produced by the fertilization of an oosphere

Oost-ende (ōōs ten'dē) *Fl. name for* OSTEND

ootheca (ōō thē'kā, ūs'-ē) *n., pl.* —*cae* (-sē) [ModL < OO- + Gr *thēkē*: see **THECAL**] an egg case, as of certain mollusks and insects —*o'o-the-cal adj.*

ootid (ōōt'ēd, ūs'-ē) *n.* [OO- + **T** + **ID**] a large, haploid cell produced at the second meiotic division, that quickly becomes an egg cell

ooze¹ (ōōz) *n.* [ME *wose* < OE *wos*, sap, juice, akin to MLowG *wose*, scum < IE base *wes-, wet: meaning infl. by OE *wase*, mire; see fol.] 1 an infusion of oak bark, sumac, etc., used in tanning leather 2 [*< the v.*] a) an oozing; gentle flow b) something that oozes —*vi.* **oozed**, **ooz-ing** 1 to flow or leak out slowly, as through very small holes; seep 2 to give forth moisture, as through pores 3 to escape or disappear gradually /hope oozed away/ —*vt.* 1 to give forth, or exude (a fluid) 2 to seem to radiate /to ooze confidence/

ooze² (ōōz) *n.* [ME *wose* < OE *wase*, < IE base *weis-, to flow away > *L virus*] 1 soft mud or slime; esp., the deep layers of sediment at the bottom of a lake, ocean, etc. 2 an area of muddy ground; bog

ooze leather leather of calfskin, sheepskin, or goatskin with a velvety or suede finish on the flesh side

oozy¹ (ōōzē) *adj.* -zier, -zi-est oozing; giving forth moisture —*oo'-zily* *adv.* —*oo'-ziness* *n.*

oozy² (ōōzē) *adj.* -zier, -zi-est full of or like ooze; slimy —*oo'-zily* *adv.* —*oo'-ziness* *n.*

op¹ (āp) *n.* OP ART

op² (āp) *n.* [Slang] short for: *1 OPERATIVE (n. 2) *2 OPPORTUNITY

op³ *abbrev.* 1 opera 2 operation 3 opposite 4 opus 5 out of print

OP *abbrev.* 1 observation post 2 Order of Preachers (Dominicans) 3 out of print

op- (āp, āp) *prefix* OB- used before *p* [*oppress*]

opac-ity (ō pas'ē tē) *n.* [Fr *opacité* < L *opacitas* < *opacus*, shady] 1 the state, quality, or degree of being opaque 2 *pl.* —*ties* something opaque, as a spot on the cornea or lens of an eye

opah (ōpā) *n.* [WAfr (Ibo) *übā*] a very large, brightly colored, silvery, marine bony fish (*Lampris guttatus*, order Lampriformes)

opal (ō'päl) *n.* [L *opalus* < Gr *opallios* < Sans *upalah*, (precious) stone] an amorphous, iridescent mineral, $\text{SiO}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, of various colors, often used as a gem; hydrous silicon oxide

opal-es-cent (ōpē'les'ēnt) *adj.* [prec. + **ESCENT**] showing a play of colors like that of the opal; iridescent —**o'pal-esce'** *vi.* —**esced', -esc-ing** —**o'pal-es'cence** *n.*

opal-in (ōpā'lēn', -lin', -lin) *adj.* [OPAL + **IN**] of or like opal

opaque (ōpāk') *adj.* [ME *opare* < L *opacus*, shady] 1 not letting light pass through; not transparent or translucent 2 not reflecting light; not shining or lustrous; dull or dark 3 not allowing electricity, heat, etc., to pass through 4 hard to understand; obscure 5 slow in understanding; obtuse —*n.* 1 anything opaque 2 *Photog.* an opaque liquid used in blocking out parts of a negative —*vt.* **opaqued**, **opaqu-ing** 1 to make opaque 2 *Photog.* to apply opaque to (a negative) —**opaque'ly** *adv.* —**opaque'ness** *n.*

opaque projector a projector for throwing images on a screen by reflecting light from opaque objects

op art (āp) [*< OPTICAL*] a style of abstract painting utilizing geometric patterns or figures to create various optical effects, such as the illusion of movement

op. cit. *abbrev.* [L *opere citato*] in the work cited

ope (ōp) *adj.*, *vt.*, *vi.* **oped**, **op-ing** [ME < *open(en)*] old poet. var. of OPEN

OPEC (ō'pek') *n.* Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries: an association of major oil-producing nations which seeks to control crude-oil prices by setting production limits for each member nation

***Op-Ed** (āp'ēd) *adj.* [*Op(posite) Ed(itorial page)*] [often **op-ed**] designating, or appearing on, a page in a newspaper, usually the one opposite the editorial page, that features columns, freelance articles, letters, etc. expressing varied opinions and observations —*n.* an Op-Ed page or an article, column, etc. appearing on an Op-Ed page

open (ō'pen) *adj.* [ME < OE, akin to Ger *offen* < PGmc **upana*: for IE base see UP¹] 1 *a* in a state which permits access, entrance, or exit; not closed, covered, clogged, or shut [*open doors*] 2 *b* closed, but unlocked (the car is *open*) 2 *a* in a state which permits freedom of view or passage; not enclosed, fenced in, sheltered, screened, etc.; unobstructed; clear [*open fields*] 2 *b* having few or no trees, houses, etc. [*open country*] 3 unsealed; unwrapped 4 *a* not covered over; without covering, top, etc. 2 *b* vulnerable to attack, etc.; unprotected or undefended (see also OPEN CITY) 5 spread out;